

Northern Rural Training and Employment Consortium

Local Board Spotlight

Mission

The 11 county Northern Rural Employment and Training Consortium (NoRTEC) has shown outstanding vision in the development of their regional network of workforce, education, economic development, communities, and businesses. This network of partners has committed to putting people back to work, growing the opportunities of business and the green economy, delivering new services which result in new product and business development, accelerating new technologies, accelerating deployment of renewable energy, creating new career pathway models that lead low wage workers to high paying careers, and leveraging limited resources for positive change in their region.



New Partnerships

NoRTEC has taken a regional leadership role by forming new partnerships with Industry Advisory Boards, the region's Community Colleges, California State University Chico, Utilities, Golden Capital Network, Wavepoint Venture Capital, and SolarTech Association. Through these partnerships NoRTEC has developed a sector initiative that meets the needs of local workers and businesses.

Leveraged Funding

Through these diverse partnerships, NoRTEC has done an exceptional job of leveraging funding and maximizing outcomes. Beginning with \$2 million in funding from the Clean Energy Workforce Training Program and \$250,000 from the Regional Industry Clusters of Opportunity Grants, NoRTEC has gone on to receive nearly \$10 million in additional funding to support the work of their regional collaborative. This includes \$4 million in federal Department of Labor Pathways out of Poverty funding that will help disadvantaged populations find ways out of poverty and into economic self-sufficiency through employment in energy efficiency and renewable energy industries. Additionally, under the Green Innovation Challenge Grant, NoRTEC received \$3.5 million to work with their business-led partnership to develop and

implement new workforce training strategies that will prepare workers for jobs in a broad range of clean technologies.

Early Outcomes

Although the partnership is still fairly new there have been a number of promising outcomes. To date, under the Clean Energy Workforce Training Partnership, 301 people have been enrolled, with 213 receiving training, with preliminary results showing a placement rate of 81%. With an additional \$1 million in funding under the State Energy Sector Partnership grant



NoRTEC will further add to their training opportunities by focusing on Smart Meter and Smart Grid Transmission line training.

The California Workforce Investment Board would like to congratulate the Northern Regional Training and Employment Consortium and its One Stop Career Centers on their outstanding work.